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BEFORE THE ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION RECEIVED

KRISTIN K. MAYES
CHAIRMAN
GARY PIERCE
COMMISSIONER
SANDRA D. KENNEDY

COMMISSIONER SANDRA D. KENNEDY COMMISSIONER PAUL NEWMAN

COMMISSIONER BOB STUMP

COMMISSIONER

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Arizona Corporation Commission CORP COMMISSION DOCKETED DOCKET CONTROL

JAN 2 1 2009

DOCKETED BY

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF FAR WEST WATER & SEWER COMPANY, AN ARIZONA CORPORATION, FOR APPROVAL OF INTERIM RATES AND CHARGES.

Docket No. WS-03478A-08-0608

RUCO'S RESPONSE TO STAFF'S REQUEST TO SUSPEND THE TIME CLOCK AND THE COMPANY'S RESPONSE

NOTICE OF FILING

The Residential Utility Consumer Office ("RUCO") has reviewed and responds to Staff's request to suspend the time clock and Far West Water and Sewer Company's ("Company's") response. RUCO agrees that the issue of interim rates should be considered as expediently as possible, but disagrees with the schedule proposed by the Company. If interim rates are determined essential to address an emergency situation created by a negative cash flow and mandated ADEQ improvements, RUCO suggests the clock be suspended on the permanent rate case, and the Commission determine interim rates. RUCO suggests that after completion of its mandated improvements and establishment of 12 months of matching operating expenses, the Company should then be required to update its application using a more appropriate test year. If the permanent rate case continues, after interim rates are established and before construction on the mandated improvements has been completed, the application

will be based on operating expenses, which are not yet known and measurable, and plant 1 2 additions, which have not been completed. 3 RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED this 21st day of January, 2009. 4 5 6 Counsel 7 AN ORIGINAL AND THIRTEEN COPIES of the foregoing filed this 21st day of January, 2009 with: 8 **Docket Control** Arizona Corporation Commission 10 1200 West Washington Phoenix, Arizona 85007 11 COPIES of the foregoing hand delivered/mailed this 21st day of January, 2009 to: 12 13 Jane L. Rodda Administrative Law Judge **Arizona Corporation Commission** 14 400 West Congress 15 Tucson, Arizona 85701 16 Lyn Farmer Chief Administrative Law Judge 17 **Hearing Division** Arizona Corporation Commission 1200 West Washington 18 Phoenix, Arizona 85007 19 Janice Alward, Chief Counsel 20 **Legal Division Arizona Corporation Commission** 1200 West Washington 21 Phoenix, Arizona 85007 22

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